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LSU SHREVEPORT

Thursday
20 September 2007



the ALMAGEST

... your Pilot News source

Campus animation

by Chris Gray

"I know about as much as you know. In fact I'm on my way to a meeting about it now," said John Vassar, Chair of the fine arts department.

Now that the Hollywood film industry has moved into the Shreveport, Bossier area and began shooting films, casting local students, and others to fill various extra roles, LSUS is trying to help those students who want to learn more about the film industry, especially in the fields of animation and computer graphic special effects by offering a course in animation and computer effects.

The program will provide training for students who are interested in the field. These students will then be able to enter the film industry with some knowledge about animating films and also the ever popular computer graphic imaging (CGI). The school may not need new hardware to run the program, but the software, training, and hiring of people qualified to use the technology will be rather costly.

cont. pg. 4



Black-Box ready for business

by Christine Bradley

LSUS is taking another step forward in an attempt to keep up with modern times. The theater department on campus is establishing a Black-Box Theater, located on the first floor of Bronson Hall. This latest addition provides a contemporary learning environment for the study of drama and a dependable facility for plays and performances.

The Black-Box Theater is exactly what it sounds like, a square room painted entirely black. It is equipped with removable chairs and is ideal for intimate performances with basic technological needs. Robert Alford, theater director and assistant professor of communications, is dedicated to the success of this venue. He has secured \$32,000 through a state grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents to pay for theater costs.

In past years, the majority of all productions were in the UC Theater. Although productions continue to be successful there, the facility has harsh limitations. For

example, it has no backstage area or restrooms. The facility was actually built primarily for lectures or assemblies.

"It's a deceptive play, that requires digging into the emotions, needs and intentions of the characters much more than most plays do."

Robert Alford
theater director

There is also an incredibly high demand rate for use of the UC Theater. The result of having a Black-Box Theater on campus is a multitude of plays, performances, and productions by the LSUS theater department.

The 2007-2008 season of productions includes *East Texas Hot Links* by Eugene Lee, *Burn This* by Lanford Wilson, *The Woolgatherer* by William Mastrosimone, *Walking with a Panther* by Sherri Bailey, *Dink's Blues* by Philip Hayes Dean, *Beyond Therapy* by Christopher Durang and *All My*

Sons by Arthur Miller.

The department is especially excited for the performance, *Burn This*. The play stars Pruitt Taylor Vince, recipient of an Emmy Award for his role in *Murder One*. The production is reserved for audience members 17 years or older due to mature themes and language. In past years, thought-provoking and challenging performances were avoided due to financial reasons or the inability to ensure audience attendance.

"It's a deceptive play, that requires digging into the emotions, needs and intentions of the characters much more than most plays do," said Alford, "These four characters are very good at keeping their true feelings inside, often with a protective veneer of humor. When they finally let their feelings show, it can be explosive."

East Texas Hot Links will be performed today, September 20 at 10:30a.m. and Sunday, September 23 at 8:00p.m. The performance will be held in the Black-Box Theater, Bronson Hall 111. Seating will be limited.

30 spaces open up

by Devin White

Problems with traffic and parking on campus are nothing new. However, these daily inconveniences could be coming to an end thanks to a new traffic assistance plan and a SGA proposal to the faculty senate to help eliminate parking woes.

The proposal asks the Parking and Traffic Committee to change 10 current faculty parking spots to student spots in the Bronson Hall, the Business and Education Building and the Technology Center parking lots. This means that students would have 30 more parking spaces.

"The changing of a few spots can be mutually beneficial for all parties involved," said Joe Hayes SGA President, senior, finance and management major.

Some students question whether or not the proposal would really help the parking situation.

"Since it's just 30 spaces, I don't think it will help," said Amy McMillon, junior, English major.

"A lot of students already park in faculty spots, and parking is still a problem," said McMillon. cont. pg.3



Dogfighting: Southern heritage or inhumanity?



First woman in space: on LSUS campus

the **Almagest**

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**Chris Gray**
Editor-in-Chief**Christine Bradley**
Managing Editor**Devin White**
Assignment Editor**Fola Hammones**
Public Relations**Rodrigo Mondragon**
Photographer

Bronson Hall, Room 344
Louisiana State University in Shreveport
One University Place
Shreveport, LA 71115
phone/fax: (318) 797-5328
e-mail: almagest@lsus.edu
Dr. Gloria G. Horning, faculty adviser

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Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. Letters should be e-mailed or submitted to the Almagest office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Please type the letter and include your classification and major. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

EDITORIAL**Leisure versus class time**

by Chris Gray

In my time at LSUS I have seen many friends come and go through the halls of our great institution. Some have graduated and gone on to better things, and some have fallen on hard times and were not able to continue with their pursuit of higher education. Others have fallen victim to the habit of not coming to class because they thought their leisure time was more important than their education and stopped coming to class or did not do the required work or assignments for their classes and subsequently lost the funding they needed in order to come back to school.

I will be frank I fell into this trap once by becoming addicted to a certain Video Game. I shucked my school work for the chance to hold a virtual weapon in my Orc warrior's arsenal. Even though I felt a sense of accom-

plishment and was very pleased about my acquisition after countless hours in my video game world and hot pocket meals in the real world. This act of awesome gaming almost cost me my college career. I have always carried the belief that one has to work hard and play hard to enjoy life to the fullest. Some people may be awesome multi-taskers and can balance work, school, and play enough to make the cut. Some students may not be as fortunate or blessed to have this ability. For those students who can not manage the difficult balance between school and leisure I am truly sorry and I feel your pain.

Leisure time is something that everyone wants and needs in order to stay sane. Though school is a place you may not necessarily want to be, you paid for it so you have to think to yourself do you want the four year plan or the ten year plan? Be cool, stay in school.



Tuesday, September 18, Noel Memorial Library. LSUS chancellor Vincent J. Marsala speaks before receiving checks totaling \$800,000. The checks are for completing once new endowed chair, three endowed super professorships, and five new endowed professorships.

Letter to the Almagest

by Beverly Burden

As we begin a new academic year on the LSUS campus, I would like to share my thoughts as someone who works full time on campus. I would like to remind everyone who comes to OUR campus to have respect and pride of our people, buildings and grounds. *Every individual* who works and/or studies on our campus contributes to the success and eminence that is associated with LSUS. In order for any society to maintain order, balance and prosperity there must be regulations. One regulation that became an issue last spring is the use of bulletin boards and the posting of notices. Two main problems arise concerning this issue: the location and placement method of flyers, posters and

such. Please consult the Student Handbook for LSUS policy on billboard use and flyer placement.

I have witnessed the violation of this policy from every level on campus, student organizations, LSUS departments and administrative offices. Once everyone is reminded of the policy, perhaps we can clean things up a bit.

I would also like to remind everyone to be mindful of keeping the LSUS campus and buildings clean. Trash belongs in trash cans, write on paper not desks or walls, feet belong on the floor and all LSUS buildings are tobacco free. Do not treat LSUS like a rental car but more like *your home*.

CAMPUS UPDATE



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- Desk Lamps

Astronaut on campus

by Devin White

Former NASA astronaut Kathryn Sullivan Ph.D will visit LSUS next week and give a free public lecture about her experiences as an astronaut and oceanographer.

At her lecture, "From Starfish to the Stars: Reflections of an Oceanographer Astronaut," students can expect to learn about living and working in space and a look at what's ahead in space-flight and exploration.

"She gives a talk that you remember years later," said Laura Whitlock Ph.D assistant professor, chemistry and

physics.

A veteran of 3 NASA shuttle missions, Sullivan is the first woman to walk in space. She holds a doctorate in geology from Dalhousie University. Since then, she has been awarded honorary degrees from five different universities including one from Kent State University.

Sullivan is also an oceanography officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve where she holds the rank of captain.

The lecture will be held in the UC Theatre Tuesday, September 25 at 7 p.m.

30 spaces open cont.

Nicole Goad introduced the "student/faculty parking" proposal to the SGA Student Senate last Thursday. The Student Senate could vote on it as early as today or next week.

Another possible solution to the limited amount of parking spaces is to simply offer more classes at different times.

"This semester is the first semester that we have begun a concerted effort to implement a few afternoon classes again," Hayes said.

"From my discussions with the staff, the response has been very positive," said Hayes.

As many are already aware, a new traffic assistance plan is in full effect at the East Kings exit at the north end of campus. The

campus police department provides traffic control Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:50 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and on Tuesday and Thursday from 12:20 to 12:45 p.m. These times are known to be the busiest times for entering and exiting the campus since many classes begin and end around then.

"This intervention is prompted by the inefficient traffic flow from campus via the Youree exit," said Chief Rebecca Chiles, campus police.

"The traffic light timing allows for the movement of only a few vehicles off campus each light cycle," said Chiles.

Chiles said, the plan is "going well" since its implementation a few weeks ago.

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Follow Fola

by Fola Hammones

These past several days, I have to say I have cheated. At work, it is the "Biggest Challenge" for me to stay focused on what is healthy and what will obstruct my diet. Of course, I said I would not cheat, but the pasta was calling my name. The pasta milano dinner portion has about 1130 calories, which fifty-seven are from fat. After five bites of this sinful dish, I forced myself to keep the faith and have more will power.

Since then, I try to keep healthy goodies with me throughout the day. For instance, I ran to Wal-Mart to pick up some fruit like: apples, grapes, bananas and plums. These fruits cure my sweet tooth throughout a stressful day. During dinner, I keep in mind the size of the portions I eat. What's especially important is remembering the five food groups that need to be on my plate: protein, dairy, fruit, veggies, and starch.

Although it may seem elementary to state the five food groups, as American, we forget that we need all of these food groups to stay

alive. Lettuce does not count if it's on a burger. Sorry, to all you burger lovers.

This past week, I also learned it's not so bad to exercise. After leaving the Rec. Center on campus, I felt like a million bucks. My knees were hurting but I chalk that up due to the lack of a full body workout. Those of you who are not comfortable working out in public there are a variety of ways to exercise:

1. Buy an exercise DVD at a local retail store or online. I snagged the Denise Austin Five Target Workout at Wal-Mart for only ten dollars. That's the same amount of money I would spend on fast food in two days. You do the Math.

2. We all try to look for a closer parking space on campus. Even though some of us may not like walking it helps you get your heart going.

3. While watching T.V. do a few crunches while watching Brittany Spears look a "hot mess" on the MTV Awards re-runs. All these suggestions will get you jump started on a healthy lifestyle

Animation cont.

Louisiana state senator Sherri Cheeks lobbied legislature for funds to LSUS to help prepare students for the upcoming film industry presence in our community.

"Sherri Cheeks realized the movie industry needs support from Northwest Louisiana schools," said Paul Sisson, dean, College of Sciences. The legislature would award the school three hundred thousand dol-

lars to fund a new Animation Program.

"The program may possibly be available in January," said Sisson. This program may help fuel the creative mind with images of awesome explosions that look real, but the program is still in its early stages. No one truly knows when the program will be available to students.

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COMMITMENTS YOU NEVER

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OR EMBRACE IT.

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A MARINE CORPS OFFICER

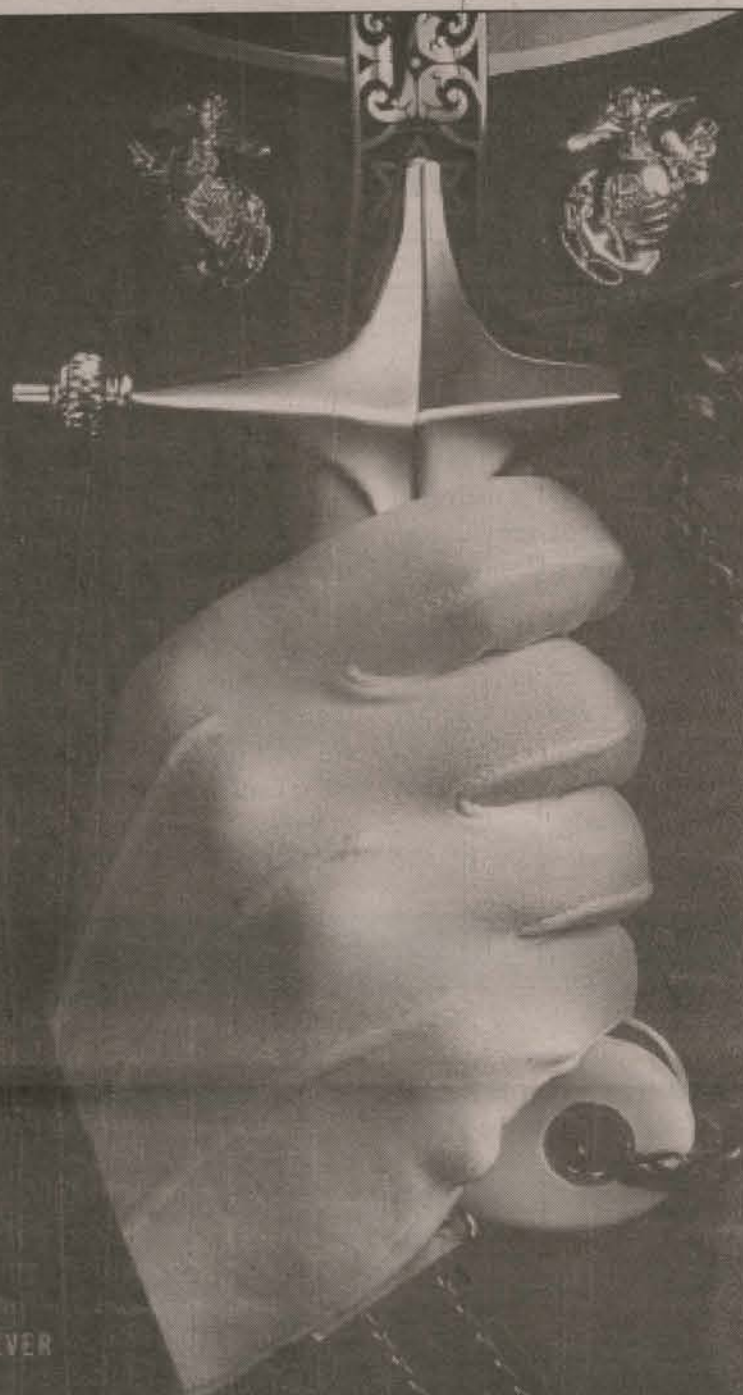
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THE FUTURE OF THIS NATION.

FEW CAN BE MARINES.

EVEN FEWER CAN LEAD THEM.

CAN YOU?





SPORTS



Lady Pilots silent the Braves

by Justin Powell

The LSUS women's soccer team is FANTASTIC, now 6-3 for the season. They decimated the Alcorn State Braves 8-0 this past Tuesday in "The Swamp" at their first home game of the season. The women's soccer team is on a hot streak.

Shaderia Evans, #23, LSUS defender, junior said, "We all just worked together and put the ball in the goal."

Evans also had an assist on a goal made.

The final score of the

game was LSUS eight and Alcorn State zero sweeping the Braves. David Beckham would not even step on the field with these rising stars. That is how skilled our team is this year.

The women really showed a lot of grit out there this past Tuesday. They made Alcorn State look like a junior high soccer team. It seems like our lady pilots are well on their way to another conference title.

Seems simple enough right? I'm just kidding they

are extraordinary athletes.

Julia Vaughn, #13, LSUS forward, junior said, "We expect to go all the way and win conference again just like last year."

Vaughn scored two goals in their winning effort.

Be sure to try and make it out to the next LSUS women's soccer game which will be held here at LSUS campus. Their next game is against the University of Mobile this Saturday at "The Swamp." Kick off is set for 1:00 PM.

Men's Basketball: Home Games

Opponent

Date

Time

♦Jarvis Christian	11/12/2007	7:00p.m.
♦UT at Tyler	11/24/2007	3:00p.m.
♦Texas College	11/28/2007	7:00p.m.

Women's Basketball: Home Games

Opponent

♦Wiley

12/15/2007

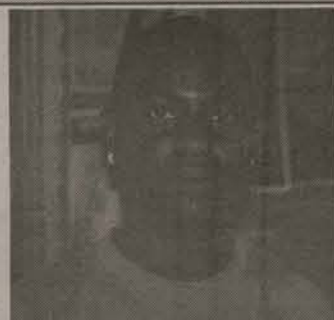
Date

Time

♦Jarvis Christian	11/12/2007	5:30p.m.
♦Texas A&M	11/15/2007	6:00p.m.
♦Paul Quinn	12/14/2007	7:00p.m.



Emina Hadzic,
science major
S.Carolina: 10 LSU: 24
Titans: 6 Saints: 28



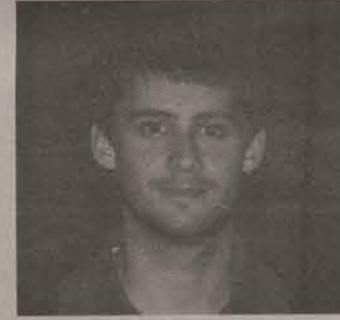
Jason Smith,
biological science major
S.Carolina: 10 LSU: 52
Titans: 27 Saints: 40



Luna Corzine,
art major
S.Carolina: 23 LSU: 42
Titans: 18 Saints: 23



Matt Cooper,
pre-med major
S.Carolina: 13 LSU: 28
Titans: 17 Saints: 20



Matthew Baker,
computer science major
S.Carolina: 7 LSU: 28
Titans: 14 Saints: 35



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LSU Baton Rouge victorious

by Justin Powell

The LSU Tigers absolutely spanked The University of Middle Tennessee. The final score was 44 to nothing. LSU looks great so far this year, but they haven't met an official threat yet. They will have a big test coming this Saturday against Steve Spurrier's No. 17 South Carolina Gamecocks.

Now lets get to the highlights of the game versus Middle Tennessee. First of all you have to give it up for LSU Sophomore backup quarterback Ryan Perrilloux because he was outstanding against Middle Tennessee.

Perrilloux threw 20 of 25 for 298 yards with three touchdown passes and just one interception. This kid is definitely proving that he will be the quarterback of the future for LSU.

Our own hometown player and LSU senior running back Jacob Hester carried the football 10 times for a total of 57 yards. Another player who showed some offensive promise was LSU sophomore receiver Jared Mitchell with six catches for 82 yards. This kid looks very good.

LSU Head Coach Les Miles had this to say about his second string quarter-

back Perrilloux: "That's not a bad day at the office," Miles said. "The good news is he handled some pressure in the pocket. He got roughed up a little bit and still came back and seemed to have composure and played well."

Middle Tennessee's junior quarterback Joe Craddock didn't have that great of a game. Craddock completed only six passes for 59 yards and no touchdowns. He was eventually pulled in the second half when he started to get sacked a lot. Lets just face it they really had no chance against LSU's defense.

ENTERTAINMENT

Weekly Music Line-Up

Band	Date and Time	Place to be
Rule Siks	9/21 @ 9:00p.m.	Mia's Pub
ikillcars	9/21 @ 9:00p.m.	Jack Rabbit Lounge
Rules of Culture	9/22 @ 9:00p.m.	Jack Rabbit Lounge
Wynonna Judd	9/28 @ 8:00p.m.	Horseshoe
I Wrestled a Bear	9/28 @ 8:00p.m.	Soundstage
Ono!	9/28 @ 10:00p.m.	Mia's Pub

Popular experiments

by Derick Jones

The Go! Team's music is a watercolor splash of sixties funkadelic and seventies disco. The band has a sound like you have never heard and will never want to turn off. Straight out of the UK, The Go! Team's sophomore album *Proof of Youth* has hit the streets, and the band's ready for action.

Their debut album, *Thunder, Lightning, Strike*, which was delivered to the scene in 2004, sent shockwaves through their hometown of Brighton, England making them huge in the Euro-pop market. With their new CD, *Proof of Youth*, headed by band leader Ian Parton, the songs transcend time and space with an eclectic mix of rock, hip-hop, 70s funk, and jam packed put-your-hands-together and clap rap.

Their first single, "Grip Like a Vice," has very much a 60s feel with awesome guitar melodies and informative lyrics. The laid back disco-rap intertwines with a fierce echo of drums making this single one that makes you dance to even if you don't want to.

Another fiery, twinkle rock song is "Fake Id." It's a

fun mix of cheerleader chants and colorful, beat-boxed guitar riffs that make you want to grab a drink and go have fun. Their new single, "Doin' it Right," is a bit more laid back than "Vice." It still packs a melodramatic feel that is very reminiscent of the 70s era with funky beats that make you want to drive around with the top down.

With this in mind, no wonder Time magazine said that The Go! Team was definitely a band to check out in 2006. Now, with their new album released, they're sure to make their way to the high heavens of treble-heavy, rock and roll history.



For more information, check the website at www.thegoteam.com

Mr. Woodcock torments screen

by Chris Gray

Billy Bob Thornton and Sean William Scott star in this shallow comedy about a sadistic middle school gym teacher who is now tormenting an old student by dating the student's mother.

Billy Bob Thornton ("Bad Santa", "Bad News Bears") is Mr. Woodcock and delivers an empty performance in this film. The guy plays a great scumbag and is normally a good solid actor in films of other genres, but in this film, it was as if he got lazy. There was no comedic flare to his performance. In some places in the movie you can see a little glimmer of comedy blossom in his eye. Then the glimmer would fade, and I was left with nothing but a screen with an old man on it.

Sean William Scott ("American Pie", "The Run-

down") was no better than Thornton. He does not have, nor will he ever have, acting talent. I'm surprised this guy hasn't moved on to the glorious, straight to DVD film. In this movie, he does not try to make any improvements in his ability to make people laugh. He depends on and assumes that the audience knows him as Stifler from "American Pie", and maybe, they will chuckle because of that. He brings nothing new to the table in "Mr. Woodcock."

The same can be said of the plot and story for this film. It brings nothing new to the table as far as content. It has the same basic humor as your average PG-13 comedy, but it doesn't tell a new story or enhance an existing one. It is two guys who are good at crude humor hamming up the silver screen with crude jokes and talking

about each others testicular fortitude while competing for someone else's affection. That would be a funny scenario if it wasn't over done in the first place.

Director Craig Gillespie, who has only directed two films in his career, showed me nothing and needs to stop while he is ahead. He relied on his talent too much. He relied on the actors to bring flare and comedy to the film. As a director, he should have brought that out of them and not just let his movie ride on the abilities of a good actor who can play one role well, and another actor who can only play one role.

"Mr. Woodcock" is a film you go to see with your 13 yr old cousin twice removed on your mother's side who offers to pay for it, and even then you will want your money back.

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Pelican Briefs

Co-pilot advice

by Your Co-Pilot

Could the menu at the Port be expanded? Is there any way to have a daily lunch special? Thanks, Starving for information.

Thanks so much for writing to the column! After journeying to the UC and speaking with assistant manager of the Port, Charla Cwanek, I believe I have the answer to your question.

According to Cwanek, business at the Port is growing. If more students continue to utilize the Port for food, beverages and breaks, the possibility of a special increases.

Cwanek says there has been recent discussion of bringing back a lunch special this semester. The most important issue to the staff is putting together a feasible menu.

"We don't want to lack in food quality," said Cwanek.

Some ideas for the lunch special menu include lasagna or a pizza and salad combination.

Your Co-Pilot

SAB Schedule

Movie Night:
Premontion
9/20 @ dark
UC Mall

Jazz Band 40th Anniversary celebration
9/25 @ 10:30a.m.
UC First floor

CoffeeHouse presents:
Javier Mendoza & Diversity Day
10/2 @ 10:30a.m.
UC Port Stage

Movie Night:
Dream Girls
10/4 @ dark
UC Mall

CoffeeHouse presents:
Tim Mahoney
10/23 @ 10:30a.m.
UC Port Stage

Movie Night:
The Invisible
10/23 @ dark
UC Mall

Freaky Fall Fest comedian, Pete Holmes
10/24 @ 7:00p.m.
UC Theater

Legends of Tiraskul continues

by Chris Gray

I turn toward Pogoo and see his hand resting on the hilt of one of his blades. He turns towards me, half his face covered by the darkness and material of his cloak. He smiles at me as he reigns in his horse a few feet from mine. He never utters a sound as he dismounts. I never saw a look of concern or cowardice on his face. He is calm with a slight mischievous grin as if he knows what is about to happen. I draw up near him and whisper.

"We are being followed my

friend. There is something in the dark." He simply replies with a nod and begins to methodically un-braid his hair. I feel the chill of the night and the wetness of my clothes, yet I hear no sound. It is as if the whole world is at slumber, even the wind and rain that has been driving into our bones is quiet. There is nothing. I rest my hand on the hilt of my sword, feeling its weight as I gently and quietly begin to withdraw it from the scabbard. Pogoo stands like a gargoyle guarding an ancient cathedral. His hair

hangs loosely down his back. His hands rest on his daggers as his eyes pierce the shroud of darkness before us.

I heard the beasts before I ever saw them. Their howls and screams were the only sounds to pierce the silence that had set over the world. When I finally saw them coming from the darkness like demons escaping the seventh circle of hell, it was too late. They were upon us. The beast lunges at me as I draw my sword a second too slow.

Dogfighting: heritage or hate?

by Evan Robertson

Everyone has heard about the Michael Vick dog fighting saga, and as a matter of course everyone seems to have an opinion. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, the United States Human Society, the Society for the Protection of Animals and countless others have always stood for decent and civilized handling of all animals. There is a long history of breeding, bartering and training dogs for innumerable good reasons, such as assisting the handicapped, protecting people and property and most of all being "Man's best friend."

Sadly there are people in this day and age that have continued one of the most barbaric practices in human history, the use of dogs, among other animals, for gambling and entertainment. The increase in its prevalence is frightening as it has spread from a highly organized illegal gambling association into an unorganized amateur competition with competitors staging fights in their backyards.



Dog fighting goes all the way back to the domestication of the canine species, and continues in nearly every region of the world both legally and illegally. It is a gambling contest for the dogs' owners and the spectators, and the stakes have usually echoed the affluence of the owners. Modern dog gamblers like Michael Vick have waged as much as \$40,000 on a single fight.

It has been illegalized across the United States by a bill passed by Congress and signed by President Bush this May which made organizing or participating in a dog fight a federal offense. Regardless of this new measure and all the state and local laws against dog fighting, it thrives as an illegal gambling venture, especially among a certain community in this country.

Anyone who participates in this brutal endeavor



should not only be punished but also tremendously ashamed of themselves. It doesn't show anyone anything other than how greedy, naive and worthless they are, and that is why examples need to be made. Michael Vick deserves whatever sentence he gets, and probably more. This is the 21st century and we should act like it.

Assignment editor, Devin White, and managing editor, Christine Bradley, will be attending the peace demonstration in Jena, LA today. Pick up the next issue of the Almagest for all the details of this pressing state dilemma.

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